

Under the provisions of Section 413.031 of the Texas Workers' Compensation Act, Title 5, Subtitle A of the Texas Labor Code, effective June 17, 2001 and Commission Rule 133.305, titled Medical Dispute Resolution-General, and 133.307, titled Medical Dispute Resolution of a Medical Fee Dispute, a review was conducted by the Division regarding a medical fee dispute between the requestor and the respondent named above. This dispute was received on 7-29-03.

I. DISPUTE

Whether there should be reimbursement for CPT code 22830 (X2).

II. FINDINGS

The respondent denied reimbursement based upon "F – The services listed under this procedure code are included in a more comprehensive code which accurately describes the entire procedure(s) performed."

III. RATIONALE

DOS	CPT CODE	Billed	Paid	EOB Denial Code	MARS (Maximum Allowable Reimbursement)	Reference	Rationale
4-11-03	22830(X2)	\$6,056.00 each	\$0.00	F	\$3338.00 X 50% = \$1669.00.	Surgery GR (I)(D)(1) and (2) 1994 GSDOS	<p>On this date, the requestor also billed 22855 – removal of anterior instrumentation and 22852 – removal of posterior instrumentation.</p> <p>Per 1994 GSDOS 22830 is not global to the removal of instrumentation or to the insertion of new spinal instrumentation.</p> <p>The CPT code descriptor for 22830 is defined as exploration of spinal fusion. It does not delineate whether it allows for additional reimbursement for anterior or posterior fusion. The CPT descriptor defines the procedure as exploring of spinal fusion; therefore, reimbursement of \$1669.00 is recommended.</p>

IV. DECISION & ORDER

Based upon the review of the disputed healthcare services within this request, the Division has determined that the requestor **is** entitled to reimbursement for CPT code (22830) in the amount of **\$ 1669.00**. Pursuant to Sections 402.042, 413.016, 413.031, and 413.019 the Division hereby ORDERS the Respondent to remit **\$1669.00** plus all accrued interest due at the time of payment to the Requestor within 20 days receipt of this Order.

The above Findings, Decision and Order are hereby issued this 02nd day of April 2004.

Elizabeth Pickle
Medical Dispute Resolution Officer
Medical Review Division

Roy Lewis, Supervisor
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